TALIBAN CLAIMS PLANTING OF N.Y.C. BOMB, PG6

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Celebrity Buzz
Berry too old for Aubry?
pg 14

Canada pg 4
Pilot breaks sky-high glass ceiling

Boy safe after kidnapping, store robbery

MISSION A 12-year-old boy is safe after allegedly being kidnapped and forced to be the getaway driver for a supermarket robbery in Mission. The victim was sitting in his father's van when the 23-year-old suspect opened the door, told the boy to move to the driver's seat and head to a nearby grocery store, RCMP said.

Police said the terrified boy stayed in the van while the suspect held up the shop, returned to the vehicle and instructed the child to drive away.

Staff at the store called 911, and police caught up with the van nearby.

METRO VANCOUVER

Vancouver marathon **Get ready, get set ...**

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Runners fill the Dunsmuir Viaduct during the half-marathon portion of the BMO Vancouver Marathon yesterday. More than 14,000 people participated in the races, with runners from Kenya winning both the men's and women's marathons. Story, page 2.

'Environmental disaster' looms in Gulf: Obama

Gushing underseas oil well threatens environment, fishing

With no remedy in sight, U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday warned of a "massive and potentially unprecedented environmental disaster" as a badly damaged oil well 1.6-kilometres deep in the Gulf of Mexico spewed a widening and deadly slick toward delicate wetlands and wildlife. He said it could take many days to stop.

Obama rushed to southern Louisiana to inspect forces arrayed against the oil gusher, where he took a helicopter ride over the water to view the 50-kilometre oil slick caused by as much as 795,000 litres of crude gushing into the Gulf each day.

The spill threatens not only the environment but also the region's abundant fishing industry, which Obama called "the heartbeat of the region's economic life."

BP chairman Lamar McKay raised faint hope that the spill might be stopped more quickly by lowering a hastily manufactured dome to the ruptured wellhead in the next six to eight days, containing the oil and then pumping it to the surface. Such a procedure has been used in some well blowouts but never at the mile-deep waters of this disaster.

Obama vowed that his administration would require well owner BP America to bear all costs.

"BP is responsible for this leak. BP will be paying the bill," Obama said after a Coast Guard briefing in Venice, a Gulf Coast community serving as a staging area for the response. He stood before cameras in a heavy rain, water dripping from his face.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 6

Southern states

- The oil flow is drifting toward the beaches of neighbouring Mississippi and farther east along the Florida Panhandle.

Entertainment pg 13

Louis-Dreyfus dodges Seinfeld curse

On the web
Visit metronews.ca for news updates

Please recycle

Canucks, 'Hawks take it online

PLAYOFFS The official Twitter pages for the Chicago Blackhawks and Vancouver Canucks — @NHLBlackhawks and @VanCanucks, respectively — are putting their avatars on the line.

The team that loses the series has to replace its Twitter photo with one of the winning team's choosing for a week. Vancouver is up 1-0 in the best-of-seven series.

Bad luck

- The Fratellis — the Scottish band that wrote the Blackhawks' goal song — reportedly broke up on the weekend.

Chicago has narrowed its choice to a photo of Patrick Kane celebrating a hat trick or of Luongo wearing Blackhawks feathers.

Here's what some Blackhawks fans are saying about the Canucks online:

@dansoles: At Wrigley today. Guy walking down the aisles with a Canuck sweater. Boos are loud and the upper deck is now chanting, "Let's go blackhawks!" — from Twitter

Chris Gaal: The Chicago Blackhawks got smoked yesterday by a bunch of tree hugging Canadians. Tonight when a Canadian comes into the store to make a purchase, I am adding a 20% tax for being a CANADIAN. — from the Blackhawks' Facebook fan page

Here's what some Canucks fans are saying about the Blackhawks online:

@vclark_wiki: saw the Canucks at the video store this weekend, they were renting Blackhawk Down ...Go Canucks Go!!!! — from Twitter

@JBIEBERCITY: The CANUCKS OWNED Chicago. Yup, it's our year :)

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

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Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

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Local

Facebook a clue to teens' sexual intentions?

Parents looking for clues that their teenagers are planning to turn online chatter about sex into real-life action should look at their kids' Facebook profiles, according to a report presented at an international pediatrics meeting in Vancouver this weekend. The study found that suggestive photos and racy remarks are linked to intentions of becoming sexually active. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

CEMETERY Two new ceremonial burners were unveiled at Vancouver's historic Mountain View Cemetery yesterday, to replace burners installed in 1901. The burners are used by the Chinese community for ceremonial offerings to ancestors.

FLIGHT An Air Canada Jazz plane was forced to make an emergency landing in Prince George after pilots reported smoke in the cockpit just after takeoff, news1130.com reports. It's believed the smoke came from from an overheated air-conditioning unit. No one was hurt. METRO NEWS SERVICES

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Pot activists rally for legalization, but Ottawa may have very different plans at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Friday, April 30
Lotto Super 7: 1, 3, 4, 5, 16, 32 & 33 Bonus 41
Extra: 3, 27, 49, 70
Saturday, May 1
Lotto 6/49: 4, 7, 10, 22, 25 & 33 Bonus 49
BC 49: 3, 8, 9, 11, 24 & 37 Bonus 42
Extra: 6, 22, 30, 60
These results are not official.

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Kenyans rule marathon

B.C. runners place 2nd, 3rd in various races

LAURA FORTEY
for Metro Vancouver

Kenyan runners won both the men's and women's races at the BMO Vancouver Marathon yesterday.

Thomas Omwenga won it for the third time, finishing the 42.2-kilometre race in 2:16:55 to take home the $2,000 top prize.

Squamish's Jason Loutitt finished second among the men and Vancouver's Graeme Wilson was third.

The women's race was won by Emmah Muthoni in 2:37:17. Suzanne Evans of New Westminster finished third.

More than 14,000 runners endured rain and 9 C weather in the 39th annual race that blocked traffic at various downtown intersections.

Toby Gobeil, a participant from Winnipeg, said she actually found the rain refreshing.

"The hills were what bothered me ... I got through it with an 'I just can't give up' attitude," said Gobeil.

Kip Kangogo of Lethbridge, Alta., an Olympic hopeful for the 2012 Games, won the men's half-marathon, narrowly beating Langley's Steve Osaduik, a three-time Canadian half-marathon champion.

In a new personal best, Krista Duchene of Brantford, Ont., won the women's half-marathon.

New this year was a visually impaired (VI) category.

LAURA FORTEY/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Benji Chu accepts his medal of completion at the end of the Vancouver Marathon yesterday. The jogging enthusiast has started a running club for Vancouver's homeless.

First race

- The first Vancouver Marathon was run in 1972, the course being five laps around Stanley Park.

Rose Sarkany, who helped launch the VI category, said she hopes to inspire and encourage others to join her.

"I know these athletes are equal to the task, even with the additional challenge presented by a visual impairment," Sarkany said in a release.

A cheerleading team, a live band, and numerous friends and family members supported runners at the finish line.

Some cheered, some cried and others just collapsed as volunteers congratulated them and handed out participant medals.

Marathon results

MARATHON: MEN
1) Thomas Omwenga, Kenya, 2:16:55
2) Jason Loutitt, Squamish, 2:25:47
3) Graeme Wilson, Vancouver, 2:28:17

MARATHON: WOMEN
1) Emmah Muthoni Kirkuki, Kenya, 2:37:17
2) Sharleen Jackson, Prince George, 2:50:13
3) Suzanne Evans, New Westminster, 2:53:00

HALF-MARATHON: MEN
1) Kip Kangogo, Lethbridge, Alta., 1:06:33
2) Steve Osaduik, Langley, 1:07:13
3) James Finlayson, Victoria, 1:07:16

HALF-MARATHON: WOMEN
1) Krista Duchene, Brantford, Ont., 1:16:40
2) Lisa Harvey, Calgary, 1:19:15
3) Heather Gallagher, Calgary, 1:19:17

Major earthquake likely still long ways away, expert says

SCIENCE Major earthquakes in China, Mexico and Chile in recent weeks might have some British Columbians concerned they too are on shaky ground.

But experts say the spate of rumblings doesn't mean the province is going to be hit by the long-predicted "Big One" anytime soon.

The B.C. coast is located inside the most earthquake-prone region in Canada and the province records more than 1,200 quakes every year, though almost all of them are too weak to be felt.

The area sits near a major fault line, as well as the North American and Juan de Fuca tectonic plates.

The crustal plates are moving against each other and when the stress from that collision is finally released, the most powerful of earthquakes — dubbed a megathrust — is expected.

But John Clague, an earth sciences professor at Simon Fraser University, says it could still be decades, if not centuries, away.

"We do know that these really large ones, the magnitude 8 and 9 earthquakes ... they occur here at our subduction zone about every 500 to 600 years," he said.

"We know that we had one about 310 years ago so we're, on average, about halfway through that earthquake cycle. We're certain that these are going to occur, it's just very difficult to predict when."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1946 quake

- In 1946, a 7.3-magnitude quake struck on Vancouver Island and caused two deaths, as well as considerable damage in communities such as Comox, Port Alberni and Powell River. It was stronger than one in Haiti earlier this year.

B.C. Place dome deflation delayed

STADIUM The deflation of the iconic white dome over B.C. Place has been delayed one day because of rain and wind concerns.

The dome will come down tomorrow beginning at 10 a.m., instead of this morning as originally planned.

The deflation, which is expected to take about half an hour, is one of the first steps in a $563-million renovation and installation of a new retractable roof.

On Thursday, B.C. Place general manager Howard Crosley said the dome could not be taken down during heavy rains because the four-hectare roof would act like a gigantic catch basin.

B.C. Place is expected to reopen before the end of next summer. A stadium near the PNE grounds in East Vancouver is being constructed as a temporary home for the B.C. Lions and Vancouver's 2011 MLS expansion team.

JEFF HODSON/
METRO VANCOUVER

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Sears

Dallaire to speak at fundraising gala in Abbotsford
Canadian lieutenant-general and Shake Hands With The Devil author Romeo Dallaire will be in Abbotsford on May 27 to speak at a fundraising gala for local charity Run For Water Society. Tickets are $75. For more information visit runforwater.ca. METRO VANCOUVER

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

A swan swims through an algae bloom in Stanley Park's Lost Lagoon in August. A new report gives a "poor" grade to the health of aquatic ecosystems in the park.

Beaver Lake's threat

Stanley Park's aquatic health receives 'poor' grade

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Stanley Park's Beaver Lake is in danger of disappearing because of sedimentation caused by introduced water lilies, warns a new report on the ecological health of Vancouver's prized park.

The lake, which the report identifies as the park's healthiest natural system, has shrunk almost in half to 3.9 hectares in 1997, down from 6.7 hectares in 1938.

"We spend a lot of time looking after the trees and roadways," said Parks Comm. Loretta Woodcock.

"It's time we started looking at the aquatic life in Stanley Park, starting with Beaver Lake."

The report was written by the Stanley Park Ecological Society and will be presented to the city's parks board tonight.

It awarded the park a grade of "fair" for environmental indicators like air quality and native biodiversity, but awarded it a "poor" for aquatic health due to stressors like invasive species, pollution and unnatural water regimes.

Other stressors in the park include off-trail bicycle use, illegal camping (between 12 to 200 people live in the park at any time) and off-leash dogs.

"We spend a lot of time looking after the trees and roadways. It's time we started looking at the aquatic life in Stanley Park."
Parks Comm. Loretta Woodcock

Another concern, Woodcock noted, is the apparent loss of the western painted turtle from Stanley Park, where it was observed in the 1970s.

Woodcock said she'd like to see the turtle, an endangered species in Coastal B.C., repatriated to the park.

Chance to appear in Steve Martin film brings out crowd

EXTRAS More than 160 people lined up in the small Vancouver Island town of Tofino this weekend for a chance to appear as extras alongside Steve Martin, Owen Wilson and Jack Black in a movie about bird watchers.

The big-name comic actors are set to star in The Big Year, a movie based on a book by Mark Obmascik that follows three avid bird watchers competing to spot the rarest bird in North America.

Film crews will be in Tofino between May 10 and May 15.

The casting agency in charge of selecting the paid extras started interviews half an hour early because so many people had already lined up.

"We started a little early because we had people here right when we got here," said casting assistant Paula Ancil.

"So once we put down some tables, we figured we might as well get started."

The filming is expected to draw more than 150 crew members to town.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Police arrest man with loaded gun

CHASE Vancouver police have arrested a 46-year-old man and seized a loaded handgun after workers at a downtown Vancouver business called 911.

Const. Lindsey Houghton said that staff at a West Georgia business reported that they thought a man acting suspiciously had a gun hidden in his clothing.

"Officers quickly arrived and spotted a man matching the description," Houghton said. "The man, seeing the officers, began to run (and) officers gave chase on foot."

Police eventually caught up with the suspect in an underground parking lot and arrested him.

METRO VANCOUVER

Gang Suppression Unit makes inaugural arrests

FIREARMS The Abbotsford Police Department's new Gang Suppression Unit has made its first two arrests after searching a home on Old Yale Road and confiscating guns, cash and drugs.

Police searched the home and a black Ford pickup truck where they found a loaded handgun, ammunition, two bullet-proof vests, cash and OxyContin, Const. Ian MacDonald said.

Lance William Wust, 35, faces three firearms-related charges and one count of drug possession for the purpose of trafficking.

MacDonald said Wust has "an extensive history with police in several jurisdictions."

The identity of the other suspect has not been released. METRO VANCOUVER

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News in brief

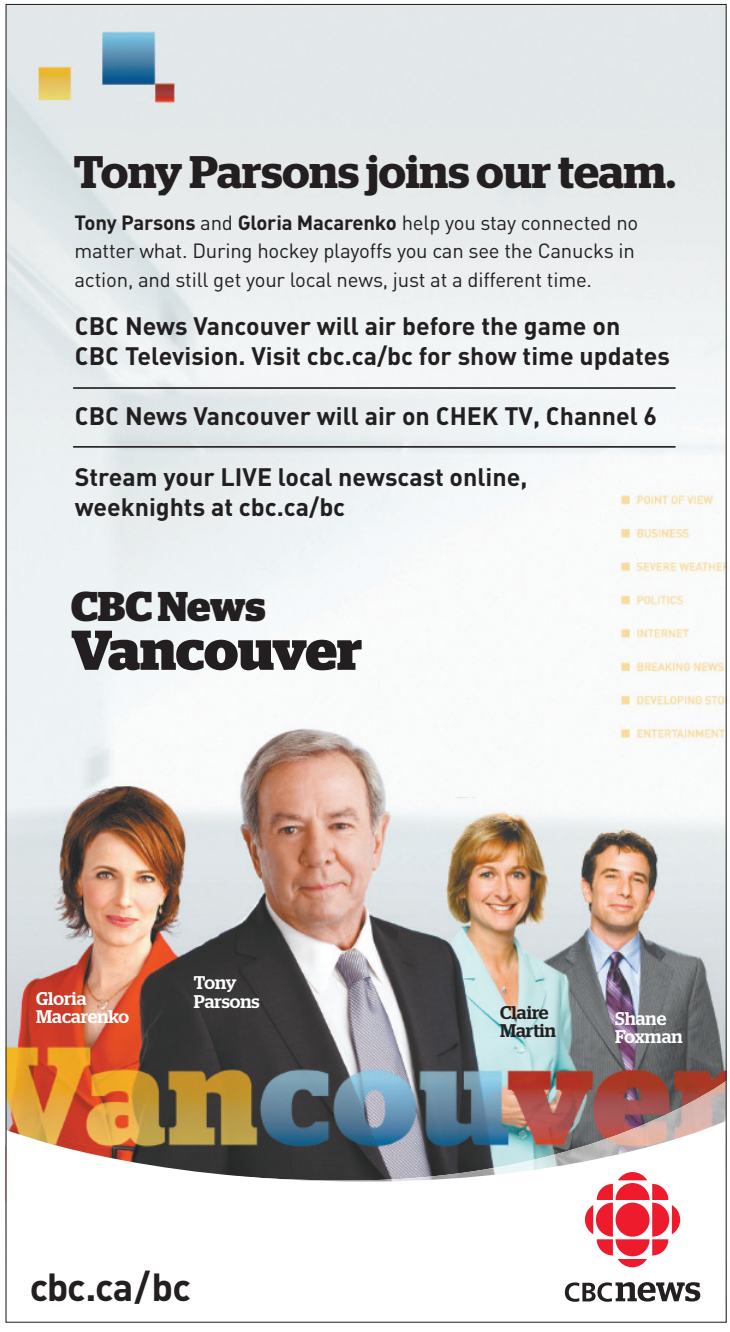
ALUMINUM The rising value of aluminum has led to a rash of billboard thefts in the Vancouver area that's caused more than $500,000 in damages, cknw.com reports. Roughly 40 boards — which cost more than $10,000 to be replaced — have been damaged. Thieves have been operating mostly in daylight hours.

BRIDGE SAFETY The city has installed more nets under the south end of the Burrard Street Bridge where chunks of concrete have been falling on the bike path below. The bridge is 78 years old.

FATAL COLLISION A 90-year-old Port Moody man has died after a two-car collision at Powell Street and Hawks Avenue.

MOTORCYCLE CRASH A 22-year-old man is dead after crashing his motorcycle on a quiet road near Planet Ice in Coquitlam. RCMP said the man flew off his bike after losing control in an intersection.

METRO NEWS SERVICES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Beer stunt leads to suspension of kids' coach

A video posted on YouTube that shows 10-year-old hockey players in Humbolt, Sask., posing with cans and bottles of beer has resulted in the suspension of an assistant coach and a parent who acted as the team's treasurer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Stop worrying and love the alien

Former Canadian defence minister Paul Hellyer is puzzled by Stephen Hawking's fear of an alien invasion — he's a big fan of aliens. Hellyer believes that not only have they visited Earth, but that they've also contributed greatly to human technological advances, such as microchips and fiber-optics. Hawking, a world-renowned astrophysicist, recently warned that it could be dangerous for humans to interact with alien life. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Media blackout

Publication ban will fuel rumours: Critics

A sweeping court-ordered publication ban that prevents anyone from reporting on a high-profile court case into the slaying of an eight-year-old girl has raised some hackles across the country.

Victoria Stafford

With front-page editorials lambasting the temporary ban as one that goes too far, experts in media law agree the extent of the ban on the Victoria Stafford case is unusual and one that will fuel rampant speculation.

"It's unusual in its scope and how broad it is, and how much it covers," said Iain MacKinnon, a lawyer acting on behalf of several media organizations.

Stafford disappeared in April last year, after leaving her school in Woodstock, Ont. Her remains were found three months later, some 100 kilometres away in a field north of Guelph.

One of the suspects charged in her death, 19-year-old Terri-Lynne McClintic, was set to appear in court Friday facing a first-degree murder charge.

A blanket publication ban issued by Justice Dougald McDermid prevents all media from saying anything else. The decision has sparked fierce criticism.

One Toronto Star editorial points out that open courts give the public confidence that justice is being done. A second front-page editorial goes further with blacked out sections indicating where details of what transpired Friday would have been written.

"I think the media is right to feel outraged," said the lawyer, who plans to argue against the ban at a later date. "It's quite frustrating and discouraging."

The reason for the ban is also off limits. "Since we have no idea whatsoever what this publication ban is all about and what it seeks to protect, it may lead to all kinds of speculation," said Klaus Pohle, who teaches media law at Carleton University. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TROY FLEECE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lt.-Col. Maryse Carmichael is set to officially become the first female boss of the Snowbirds aerobatic team on Thursday.

Snowbirds to get first female boss

FLYING The first female boss of the renowned Snowbirds aerobatic team walks toward her CT-114 Tutor jet and laughingly glances at the rudder to make it hasn't been painted pink.

There have been rumours it might happen, jokes Lt.-Col. Maryse Carmichael.

But the rudder isn't pink. The only thing that distinguishes this jet from a dozen or so others lined up on the tarmac are the black letters on the tail, "CO," for commanding officer.

Carmichael will break a sky-high glass ceiling Thursday by officially taking command of the Snowbirds, becoming the first woman to lead the squadron in its 40-year history.

"It took a little bit of time for women to become pilots (because) it's one of the non-traditional roles, she told The Canadian Press in an interview at the base in Moose Jaw, Sask.

"Then to gain the experience required to be in command of a squadron takes ... many years."

Carmichael is modest about taking on the ground-breaking role. She notes that while it's a first for the Snowbirds, women have already led other squadrons in the Canadian Forces.

The one and only

In addition to becoming the squadron's first female commander, Carmichael is the only woman, to date, to ever pilot a Snowbird.

"I don't want to downplay it, it is a fact," she said of being the first. "But really, for me this posting is about the squadron.

"I was on the team a few years ago and I was the first woman to fly with the Snowbirds and that was really different.

"But now this posting is really about commanding this squadron and commanding the men and women that really represent the Canadian Forces across Canada."

The native of Quebec City, who is in her late 30s, has spent a long time with the military.

She started out as an air cadet at the age of 13 and joined the military full time six years later. She's been a flying instructor, has flown with 434 Combat Support Squadron in Greenwood, N.S., and transported VIPs in Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Research aims to understand suicide-by-rail

STUDY In the 32 years Colin Mann spent working on the railway, the engineer crushed his eyes shut more than a dozen times, sickly aware of his helplessness to make his engine avoid the impending destruction of a person or vehicle.

Nine of those accidents were fatal.

Suicide researchers at the Universite de Quebec a Montreal are asking for stories like Mann's as they study the issue of suicide-by-rail, a phenomenon too horrible to comprehend for most people, but known too well by anyone who spends their career on Canada's 48,000 kilometres of rail.

The letter to workers from researchers said "this project's overall goal is to provide a better understanding of rail-related accidents and suicides, as well as their impact."

Transport Canada is funding the study in co-operation with Canada's railways, the Teamsters's rail division and Operation Lifesaver. A September 2007 Transport Canada report said one of the top reasons for railway trespassing fatalities was suicide. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

FISHY Researchers are exploring whether the desire to have the plumpest whitefish may be gutting the evolution of the species in a northern Alberta lake. Nets used by the industry on Lesser Slave Lake are designed to catch the biggest fish, but the genes of smaller fish who fall through the holes are being passed on, University of Calgary research shoes.

LIBEL LAW The Internet is not a "no man's land" when it comes to libel, lawyers for Conrad Black say in arguing six libel lawsuits should proceed in Ontario. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ScanLife
What does Kevin Newman's departure from Global mean for Canadian broadcasters?
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Ontario **Remembering police**

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heather Pham, left, and three sons Tyler, centre, Joshua, and Jordan, not shown, take part in a memorial ceremony at Queen's Park in Toronto yesterday in honour of families of Ontario police officers who died in the line of duty. OPP Provincial Constable Vu Pham died in the line of duty.

'All-inclusive' memorial

Kandahar memorial to include Americans

It is a sign of unwavering respect, but also a sign of the times, and perhaps a sign of things to come.

The Canadian memorial to soldiers at Kandahar Airfield is about to undergo a major expansion, adding two wings to the existing structure to accommodate American soldiers who've been killed serving under Canadian command.

The white marble and black granite cenotaph has grown steadily over the years. It started in 2006 as a simple boulder where plaques of fallen soldiers were hung.

But as the casualties mounted with heartbreaking regularity, the tribute quickly outgrew its place and the current open-air vault was created.

U.S. casualties started to outpace Canadian losses late last year and that is before the summer fighting season and NATO's planned Kandahar offensive gets underway.

Brig.-Gen. Dan Menard, the commander of Canadian troops in Afghanistan, says the two countries have been fighting alongside each other here for months and the losses should be recognized, regardless of nationality.

"This memorial is extremely important for Canadians, but we want to make it a more all-inclusive," he said.

"When you look at this memorial, it is just not representative enough as far as I'm concerned. A lot of (U.S. soldiers) have paid the ultimate price and it's important that there's room here for them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. losses

- Over the past year, 26 American soldiers serving under a Canadian commander have died in action, the vast majority through insidious home-made bombs and mines.

News in brief

ANIMAL Researchers in the Northwest Territories say they may have found the first recorded case of a second-generation hybrid polar-grizzly bear in the wild, but an expert says it's not clear what the significance may be. Government officials in the Northwest Territories said a hunter, David Kuptana, shot an unusual-looking bear during a hunting trip April 8 near Banks Island, in the Inuvik region. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Scandal-plagued Legionaries accept papal takeover

The Connecticut-based Legionaries of Christ says it has accepted the pope's decision to appoint a personal delegate to lead and reform the order following revelations that its founder sexually abused seminarians and fathered at least one child. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Weekend storms wreak havoc on southern U.S.

Six people were killed in Tennessee and three in Mississippi by a line of storms that brought heavy flooding and possible tornados to the region over the weekend. Emergency officials in Tennessee sought help from the state's Army National Guard, and urged people to stay off roads and interstate highways turned into raging rivers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistani Taliban claim credit for failed N.Y.C. bomb attempt

The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility in a video released yesterday for the attempted car bomb attack in Times Square in New York City.

In the one-minute, 11-second video allegedly released by the Pakistani Taliban, the group says the attack is revenge for the death of its leader, Baitullah Mehsud, and the recent slayings of the top leaders of al-Qaida in Iraq — Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri — who were killed by U.S. and Iraqi troops last month north of Baghdad.

An unidentified speaker on the tape, uncovered by the U.S-based SITE monitoring group, also says the attack comes in response to American "interference and terrorism in Muslim countries, especially in Pakistan."

The claim could not be immediately confirmed. The tape makes no specific reference to the attack. A text in gold letters at the start of the video congratulates Muslims for the "jaw-breaking blow to Satan's USA." New York City's police commissioner said there's no evidence of a Taliban link to the failed bomb. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIRONO MASUIKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Authorities examine a vehicle in New York's Times Square yesterday morning after police found an "amateurish" but potentially powerful bomb inside on Saturday evening. Thousands of tourists were cleared from the streets.

DAVE MARTIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Researchers collect a dead sea turtle on the beach in Pass Christian, Miss., yesterday.

Slick may yet be worst in U.S. history

OIL SPILL BP's chairman defended his company's safety record and said yesterday that "a failed piece of equipment" was to blame for a massive oil spill along the Gulf Coast, where President Barack Obama got a firsthand update on the slick creeping toward American shores.

BP PLC chairman Lamar McKay told ABC that company officials are still working to activate a "blowout preventer" mechanism meant to seal off the geyser.

The Coast Guard and BP have said it's nearly impossible to know exactly how much oil has gushed since the blast, though it has been roughly estimated the well was spewing at least 757,000 litres a day.

Even at that rate, the spill should eclipse the 1989 Exxon Valdez incident as the worst U.S. oil disaster in history in a matter of weeks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some profit from many wives despite French polygamy ban

EU The burqa, or face-covering veil, is getting all the attention in the debate over Muslim immigrants in France. But another controversial tradition among some immigrants is less noticed and far more widespread: Polygamy.

The issue resurfaced last week after a woman received a traffic citation in the western city of Nantes for driving with a veil over her face. Officials then accused her husband of having at least three other wives, and said he may be profiting from them financially while the state pays the bill.

Polygamy is one of several issues, including genital mutilation, that France and other European nations face, as immigrants arrive with customs that conflict with the law of the land. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fraud

- Experts say polygamy can also be linked to fraud, where husbands line their pockets with state funds from each of their wives.

News in brief

CHINA When classes resume in China this week, police officers and vans will be stationed outside school gates in the bustling southwestern city of Chongqing while newly installed video surveillance and intruder alarms will be keeping watch over classrooms in eastern Fujian. These measures are in place thanks to a series of back-to-back attacks last month on schoolchildren. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ScanLife

Roman Polanski breaks silence, says case will "serve him on a platter" to media.

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Nepal **Fiery protest**

ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supporters of Communist Party of Nepal dance to a patriotic song as they block a road in Kathmandu yesterday. Opposition supporters armed with bamboo sticks enforced a general strike that closed transportation, schools and markets across Nepal to demand Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal's resignation.

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Comment

Skyline is looking up

It's hard to believe, but Arthur Erickson might be proven wrong after all. The legendary West Coast architect, who passed away last year, quipped famously in 2007 that Vancouver's skyline was getting much too "blah."

While his frank assessment rankled some bureaucrats and local builders, Erickson was dead on. Over the past decade, Vancouver has been saddled with some mediocre highrise buildings that aspire to the design equivalent of vanilla. There have been exceptions, but not many.

So the sight of glass going up on the under-construction, 37-storey Jameson House on West Hastings Street in the downtown heritage district is not only an indicator of the improving real estate development picture for the region — it provides some welcome hope for the city aesthetic.

The sleek Jameson House was designed by British celebrity architect Norman Foster, the only individual from his profession named to the Times of London's recently published Rich List.

As a so-called starchitect, he oversees a global collection of high-profile projects catering to culture, commerce and government. Compared to his mega-city airports and bank towers, his British Columbia project is relatively small.

But his Lower Mainland presence is something of a breakthrough, representing new possibilities for international architecture here — downtown view-cones policy and rampant NIMBYISM notwithstanding.

According to Foster's firm, Jameson House — which rises above two art-deco buildings — continues the architect's work with historic structures in North America such as New York's Hearst Tower. Here, the tower includes condominiums as well as office and retail space. It's a mix that should appease both "downtown livability" types, as well as those economic realists who dread the resortification of the city core at the expense of businesses and jobs.

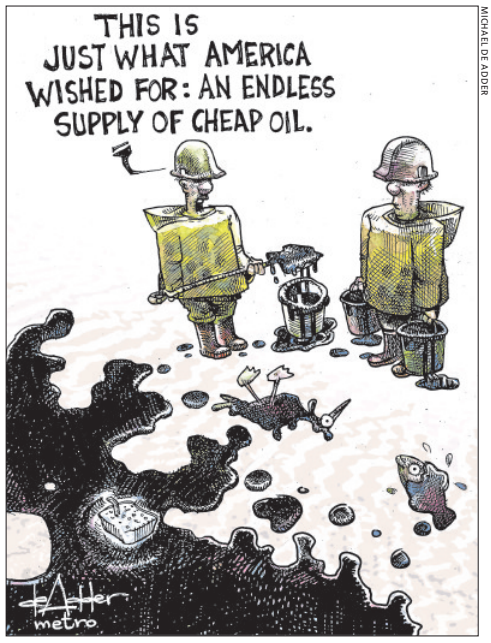
And yes, the project pays heed to green ideals — complete with eco-friendly building materials and a design that minimizes energy consumption.

Foster's success here provides some valuable lessons amidst news that the Vancouver Art Gallery plans to relocate to an iconic new building a few blocks east of its current location.

In anticipation of debate over the VAG's new building, the starchitecture haters are already coming out of the woodwork — raising the supposedly troubling spectre of Frank Gehry's Art Gallery of Ontario project in Toronto.

Let's hope Jameson House — with its respect for heritage and its West Coast environment — can quell their fears. International architecture can and should fit seamlessly with our civic values.

Derek Moscato is a writer with a focus on urban issues, transportation, architecture and economics; dmoscato@yahoo.com.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Stand guard against feeling superior

If Canadians perceive themselves as Americans do — safe, sound, sensible, snug and maybe a bit snoozy — they could arguably add another adjective as they watch events fold south of the border in recent months: Smug.

But some observers of Canada-U.S. relations say Canadians should guard against a feeling of superiority as America struggles through a period of seething discontentment.

While Canada may not have an anti-government Tea Party movement of its own or protesters marching on the nation's capital to question their leader's birth certificate, neither is it enduring a stubborn recession that's left one in 10 of its citizens out of work — a dire reality that has spurred some Americans into political activism.

"We are fundamentally very similar, we have largely the same values, the same hopes and aspirations; we live our lives in very similar ways," Chris Sands, a Canada-U.S. relations expert at the Hudson Institute in Washington, said in a recent interview.

But he cites the viewpoint of Richard Van Loon, a former civil servant and one-time president of Ottawa's Carleton University who once asserted that a key difference between Americans and Canadians is that Canadians are less likely to get politically involved when unhappy.

"He argued that Canadians were spectator participants in politics, they felt disconnected, they didn't get organized, they didn't start up groups or get petitions signed — that isn't really the Canadian way," Sands said in a recent interview. "Canadians have opinions, but they don't really think their politicians care, so they watch it all go by and weigh in at voting time, when they often do something dramatic like reduce the government to a small number of seats."

In the U.S., Sands points out, Americans take to the streets regardless of whether they're on the right or the left side of the political divide.

In D.C. at the end of the month, hundreds of so-called Birthers will march near the White House to voice their belief that U.S. President Barack Obama was not born on American soil, meaning recently passed health-care legislation is "unconstitutional and voidable." They've asked those who want to join the march to bring their birth certificates.

"Americans have a notion that they can change the world and they have to get involved, they have to be heard, they have to protest, they have to go on talk radio and rant, that it's the only way to change the system," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Noteworthy

Attractive co-workers fluster men, study finds

TOMAS LUNDIN
Metro World News

Men's brains stop working after talking to attractive female colleagues, according to a new study.

In an experiment at the Dutch University of Radboud, students took part in a series of tests that were interrupted midway by a conversation with a person of the same or opposite sex.

When the test continued the men's performance had deteriorated notably if they had been talking to a woman.

And the results got markedly worse if they had found the woman attractive.

For the women in the study there was no difference in performance whether they were speaking to either sex.

The difference is thought to be that when men talk to beautiful women they are so preoccupied with thinking about what they are saying, what they look like and how they are perceived that some brain functions are shut down — even after the conversation has ended.

Researcher Johan Karremans said: "The results were dramatically worse if the man thought the woman was attractive."

Quote of the Day

"We just think somebody ought to get up and say: 'Bravo, Michaëlle Jean; you've done a great job for Canada and in our view it would be great if you continue.'"

– LIBERAL LEADER MICHAEL IGNATIEFF, WHO IS URGING THE PRIME MINISTER TO EXTEND MICHAËLLE JEAN'S TERM AS GOVERNOR GENERAL WHEN HER FIVE-YEAR APPOINTMENT EXPIRES IN SEPTEMBER.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

United and Continental Airlines make merger plans
United Airlines and Continental Airlines agreed to combine in a $3-billion stock swap to create the world's biggest airline, people with knowledge of the deal said yesterday. The transaction is to be announced this morning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Bills take toll

The introduction of the harmonized sales tax in two of Canada's largest provinces and a wave of other new expenses could take a toll just as Canadians begin to feel confident about opening their wallets again, experts say.

Shoppers in British Columbia and Ontario started paying the HST Saturday on a number of services — including theatre packages, airplane tickets and gym memberships — that will continue to be delivered after July 1, the day the HST will start to be broadly applied in both provinces.

The tax, which combines the five per cent federal goods and services tax with the provincial sales tax, has met with opposition from those who fear it will drive up the cost of services that were previously exempt from provincial sales tax.

Consumers across the country are already bracing for higher mortgage rates and rising municipal taxes.

The rising costs come as Canadians appear to be growing wary of their future purchasing power, according to the Conference Board of Canada's consumer confidence index, which fell a surprising 7.8 points last month to 84.8, the lowest it's been since December.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Buffett Smacking the economy

NATI HARNIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Berkshire Hathaway Chairman and CEO Warren Buffett uses an oversized paddle to play table tennis yesterday as part of the annual Berkshire Hathaway shareholders meeting. The company has rebounded from last year's first-quarter loss and earned $3.6 billion since the economic recovery began.

Greece getting help

DEBT Finance ministers from the 16 countries that use the euro agreed yesterday to rescue Greece with $110 billion in loans over three years to keep it from defaulting on its debts.

The loan package with the International Monetary Fund is also aimed at keeping Greece's debt crisis from spreading to other financially weak countries such as Spain and Portugal — just as Europe is struggling out of a painful recession.

In return, Greece had to agree to an austerity program that will impose painful spending cuts and tax increases on its people for years to come.

The plan will still need approval by some countries' parliaments. But the head of the eurogroup, Luxembourg's Jean-Claude Juncker, said Greece will get the first funds by May 19, when Athens has $8.5 billion worth of a 10-year bond maturing.

The emergency deal follows 10 days of talks in Athens. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business in brief

CANWEST The deadline for bids to buy Canwest's newspaper division closed at midnight Friday amid conflicting reports on whether Torstar Corp. had enough financing to submit an offer to acquire the chain of 46 newspapers.

GDP Gross domestic product rose a solid 0.3 per cent in February, after an outsized spike of 0.6 per cent to start the year, Statistics Canada said Friday. At the same time, Ottawa posted a modest $902-million deficit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Going Green

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

METRO WORLD NEWS

Some municipalities are offering transit passes to Retire Your Ride.

Permanently parked

Retire Your Ride offers cash for your old clunker

BEN KNIGHT
for Metro Canada

Last July, U.S. President Barack Obama launched a Cash for Clunkers program designed to get old, polluting vehicle off American roads.

Response was so overwhelming, the operation was shut down less than two months later when it simply ran out of money.

What is less well-known is that Canada already had a similar plan in place. Launched in February 2009, Retire Your Ride has already exceeded its goal of 50,000 cars, nationally. It still has plenty of resources, and will continue until the end of next March.

"This is Canada's national vehicle scrappage program," national director Carla Kearns says. "It's about working with Canadians to encourage them to responsibly retire their older vehicles."

If your car is from the 1995 model year or older, you can apply to enter the program. If accepted, your car will be responsibly recycled, and you can receive a $300 payment, or choose from a series of environmentally friendly incentives.

"Cash works for a lot of people, but we have a lot of other incentives across the country that actually have a higher value than the cash alone," Kearns explains. "Many municipalities offer transit passes for six months, a year or even 15 months. Or, it could be something like a membership in a car-sharing program. We also have a number of automobile partners who can offer a rebate off the purchase of a new car."

If your car is from a 1995 model year or older, you can apply to Retire Your Ride.

Apply now

- Apply now to get your clunker off the road at retireyourride.ca.

The program is also available in French, under the wonderful name Adieu Bazou.

"One of the things we're looking to do is reduce smog in the air." Kearns notes, "So we want to make sure that these cars are actually running. We don't want to be taking cars off the road that are up on blocks in somebody's yard. To be eligible for the program, your car has to be insured for the past six months, and registered in your name."

Kearns adds that vehicles manufactured in or after 1996 do not qualify.

"There was a huge leap of improvement in vehicle emission standards between 1995 and '96. Results differ by manufacturer, but 1995 and earlier, they're pretty much all on the bad end of that range."

Retire Your Ride is funded by the federal government, and overseen nationally by Summerhill Impact.

They run a range pollution-reducing programs, including Mow Down Pollution, which offers incentives to replace gas-powered lawn mowers.

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Northern Irish golfer gets first PGA win

Rory McIlroy won his first PGA Tour event in record style. The 20-year-old from Northern Ireland rolled in a 40-foot birdie putt on the final hole yesterday to set the course record with a 10-under 62 and win the Quail Hollow Championship. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

King James extends MVP reign

LeBron James, left, won his second straight NBA MVP award, dominating the voting just as he dominated on court all season. The Cleveland Cavaliers star received 116 of a possible 123 first-place votes to win in a landslide yesterday over Oklahoma City forward Kevin Durant. Durant was picked first on four ballots. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

CFL DRAFT The Saskatchewan Roughriders dealt for the first pick of the CFL Canadian college draft then used it to take Queen's linebacker Shomari Williams yesterday. The B.C. Lions took nine players, though they surprised many by selecting Baylor offensive lineman Danny Watkins at No. 4 even though he's returning to school this fall. The club also loaded up at receiver with Shawn Gore of Bishop's (regarded as the best player at his position), Tusculum College's Nate Binder, St.Francis Xavier's Akeem Foster and Simon Fraser's Matt Chapdelaine.

TENNIS Rafael Nadal maintained his focus through two rain delays to beat fellow Spanish player David Ferrer 7-5, 6-2 yesterday and claim his fifth Rome Masters title in six years.

TENNIS Justine Henin beat Samantha Stosur 6-4, 2-6, 6-1 in the final of the Porsche Grand Prix yesterday to capture her first title since coming out of retirement in January.

SOCCER Chelsea stayed at the top of the Premier League with a 2-0 victory at Liverpool yesterday, while Manchester United made sure the title race will go to the last day with a 1-0 win at Sunderland.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Montreal 3 Pittsburgh 1 (Series tied 1-1)
San Jose 4 Detroit 3 (Sharks lead series 2-0)

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 95 Milwaukee 74 (Hawks win series 4-3)
L.A. Lakers 104 Utah 99 (Lakers lead series 1-0)

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Toronto 9 Oakland 3
Baltimore 3 Boston 2 (10 ings)
Detroit 5 L.A. Angels 1
Minnesota 8 Cleveland 3
N.Y. Yankees 12 Chicago White Sox 3
Tampa Bay 1 Kansas City 0
Texas 3 Seattle 1

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Atlanta 7 Houston 1
Chicago Cubs 10 Arizona 5
Colorado 4 San Francisco 1
Florida 9 Washington 3
L.A. Dodgers 9 Pittsburgh 3
San Diego 8 Milwaukee 0
St. Louis 6 Cincinnati 0
Philadelphia 11 N.Y. Mets 5

Cautious confidence

Canucks upbeat after 5-1 win, but coach says they need to improve

Despite an impressive opening-game victory in the Western Conference semifinal in Chicago, the Vancouver Canucks know they can't take their foot off the gas going into Game 2 against the Blackhawks.

"This was important for us to get everyone involved and get some confidence," said left-winger Daniel Sedin. "(And) it was key to have four lines scoring.

"But it's a new game tomorrow."

The Canucks claimed a 5-1 triumph on Saturday. Now they contend with a Chicago team that has bounced back after losing opening games in its last four playoff series.

And they'll have another raucous United Center crowd backing them up when the puck drops tonight (TSN, 6 p.m. PT).

"We know we're going to have to do a better job tomorrow and we will."
Alain Vigneault

The Canucks held a light, optional workout yesterday while the Blackhawks stayed off the ice. Both teams have scheduled morning skates today.

As satisfying as Saturday's victory was, the Canucks still have some issues to address.

Chicago outshot Vancouver 37-28, including 17 shots on goalie Roberto Luongo in a frenetic first period.

"We did win 5-1, but we did give that team — especially (Jonathan) Toews' and (Patrick) Kane's line — a lot of scoring opportunities," said Canucks coach Alain Vigneault. "We know we're going to have to do a better job tomorrow and we will."

Still, Luongo was solid until earlier in the third period when Kane scored on a power play.

"He's a clutch goaltender and has a lot of confidence in himself," said Vigneault. "And he does everything he has to do to put his best game on the ice."

By that point, the Canucks had already put five shots past starting goalie Antti Niemi.

Chicago coach Joel Quenneville said Canuck scoring resulted from his team's mistakes.

"I think all of the goals were self-inflicted wounds last night," he said. "We've got to be better in those areas, and it was what we did that generated their offence."

Niemi had 20 saves but left the game after 40 minutes. Cristobal Huet, who was the Blackhawks No. 1 goalie earlier this season before being unseated by Niemi, handled the third period and turned back three shots.

Quenneville said Niemi will be back in net tonight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thornton nets winner as Sharks build lead

(San Jose leads series 2-0)

Red Wings 3 Sharks 4

VS

Joe Thornton scored his first goal of the playoffs with 7:23 left and the San Jose Sharks beat the Detroit Red Wings 4-3 last night to take a 2-0 lead in the second-round series.

Joe Pavelski kept up his sizzling post-season for San Jose, scoring twice to push his NHL-high playoff total to nine and setting up Ryane Clowe's between-the-legs score. Thornton then won it by ending his playoff drought.

The series now shifts to Detroit for Games 3 and 4, starting tomorrow night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Jose Sharks centre Joe Pavelski celebrates after scoring past Detroit Red Wings goalie Jimmy Howard and centre Pavel Datsyuk yesterday in San Jose. The Sharks won 4-3.

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Governance changes underway for NSAC
Nova Scotia Agricultural College is in the process of transitioning from a branch of the province's agriculture department to an institution governed by a board like the rest of the universities in Nova Scotia. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

OCAD to get university designation?

Last week, the Ontario government proposed amendments to the Ontario College of Art and Design Act, which, if passed, will give official university status to the institution. Through the proposed amendments, the school's name would become the Ontario College of Art and Design University. The act would also officially recognize the role of the chancellor and revise the powers of the current board to recognize the creation of an academic senate. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Fusing gold and silver: The best of both worlds

OddJobs

Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs

No need to call the fire department, but John Carnes is running a homemade kiln at 1,500 degrees in the spare room in his Toronto apartment.

The kiln is tiny and Carnes, 45, keeps a fire extinguisher nearby. He's never had to use it.

He's using it to create jewelry in an ancient technique called mokume gane, which means "wood-grain metal." Few in Canada use this technique, which was invented in 17th century Japan.

Carnes was born in Los Angeles, and grew up in Hawaii. He liked to paint and draw, but gave up art as a teen to focus on playing bass. Back in California after high school, he became a full-time musician.

That craft took him to New York in 1993 where he played jazz, big band, reggae and funk. But he tired of the lifestyle and decided to explore art again.

Living in Woodstock, N.Y., at the time, he set up a studio in his attic and began taking courses in jewelry making.

Eight years later, he heard about mokume gane. He was teaching jewelry making and his students encouraged him to figure it out — they wanted to learn too.

Mokume gane was invented in 17th century Japan by swordsmiths.

"You have to get good enough to not worry about melting a thousand dollars worth of metal in your lap."
Mokume gane jewelry designer John Carnes

On his own, using copper, silver and inexpensive Japanese alloys called shakudo and shibuichi, he taught himself. Since his jewelry style was minimal, the wood-grain look of the style suited his work, and set him apart. "I realized what a nice little niche this was."

In 2005, Carnes and his wife at the time moved to Toronto. He began doing his jewelry full time — along with some music on the side.

The process begins with sheets of metal — he uses the Japanese metals, silver and red, white and yellow gold — cut into small rectangles. Carnes clamps the sheets together, heats up his kiln with a jeweller's torch, and puts them inside. They get very hot, and just before the melting stage their molecules move around a lot. The metals fuse and the colours blend.

The temperature has to be just right. "They all have different melting points. It's difficult, and I'm doing this all visually."

Carnes then starts twisting and drilling into the block to create patterns with the fused colours. When that's done, he uses his traditional jewelry making equipment to roll out the metals, file and form the piece of jewelry.

Carnes does mainly custom ordered rings and sells them through his web site and high-end stores across Canada. "There are not many others doing this work. You have to get good enough to not worry about melting a thousand dollars worth of metal in your lap."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Mokume gane jewelry designer
Salary: $40,000 or so
Education/training: He's self-taught
Best Part of the Job: "Working for myself, being able to listen to whatever I want while I work."
Worst Part of the Job: "Spending a lot of time by myself. And dealing with the ups and downs of not having a paycheque every week."

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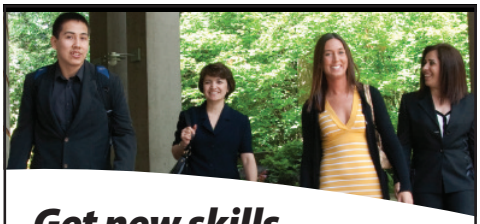
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Thursday, May 6 @ 6:30 p.m.
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Please call 604.984.4959 to reserve a seat.
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Rush documentary scores at Tribeca

According to Variety, the documentary Rush: Beyond the Lighted Stage has snagged the audience award at the Tribeca Film Festival. Scot McFayden and Sam Dunn, the directors of the film, will be rewarded $25,000 for the win. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Entertainment

The Ref

Demi Moore will be a featured panelist on an upcoming episode of The Marriage Ref. Moore, 47, will be joined by Kelly Ripa and Lewis Black on the May 20 episode. TVGUIDE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

The joke goes on for Family Guy creator

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane says no topic — including the Prophet Muhammad — should be off-limits for a comedy show. As long as it's a funny joke.

"No one is a bigger critic of organized religion than I am," says MacFarlane in reaction to the recent terrorist death threat leveled against the cartoon South Park over its spoofing of Muhammad.

Broadcaster Comedy Central eventually censored the episode without the cooperation of South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone.

"It's tricky. You pick your battles," says MacFarlane. "You have to judge how real the threat is against how funny the joke is. How much do I care about the joke?"

MacFarlane — whose Sunday cartoon empire also includes American Dad and The Cleveland Show — says potentially controversial jokes on Family Guy go through "internal discussions" before they air.

"It depends on what the joke is about. Immediacy has a lot to do with it. A recent shooting or plane crash, we try to stay away from."

Seth MacFarlane

Family Guy airs Sundays on Global

In one instance, a joke about Scientology was dropped, while a bit about Terri Schiavo — the U.S. woman at the center of a right to die debate several years ago — was used.

"The issue had received an enormous amount of attention. It was our duty as a comedy show to comment on it in some way," he says.

MacFarlane —whose recent $100 million US deal with Fox has made him the top paid writer/producer in TV history — says the much-talked-about Family Guy movie is still in its "early stages."

As for future one has to ask — is there a fourth animated series currently kicking around MacFarlane's brain?

"No immediate plans. Just devolving into a miserable, alcohol-induced deterioration," he laughs. "I have a hefty workload with the three shows I have."

Not just a pretty face

Molly Ringwald shares candid personal stories in new book

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Canada

For many, Molly Ringwald will always be 16, immortalized at that tender age by her endearing roles in the classic '80s teen flicks Sixteen Candles, Pretty in Pink and The Breakfast Club.

But today, the former teen queen is a happily married 42-year-old mother of three (a seven-year-old and nine-month-old twins), who has enjoyed a charmed life.

In her new book, Getting the Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick, the actress shares candid stories from her personal life, lessons she's learned over the years, and doles out advice on everything from dating to dressing.

Part autobiography, part chick lit, part lifestyle guide, the book evolved from what Ringwald says was self-reflection as she neared a milestone in her own life.

"I was turning 40, and it's sort of an angst-ridden time and I wanted to write a book that I wanted to read," explains Ringwald over the phone from New York where she and her husband, writer and editor Panio Gianopoulos, live part-time when they're not in Los Angeles.

Former teen idol Molly Ringwald doles out advice on everything from dating to dressing in her new book Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick.

"I wanted the book to be really light and inspirational and uplifting and fun and colourful and I just wanted to write a book about being a woman rather than a girl," she says.

Divided into nine chapters, Pretty tackles the various elements of womanhood. "There's a motherhood chapter, a friendship chapter, a love chapter, a fitness chapter," explains Ringwald.

Despite finding fame at a young age, Ringwald managed to stay away from the drug addiction that plagued so many of her Brat Pack peers. "I just instinctively knew that if I went along that path, it would lead to no good," she says matter-of-factly. "There was just too much that I wanted to do in life that I thought drugs would just slow me down."

She left Hollywood in the '90s and moved to France, where she lived with her first husband, French writer Valery Lameignère, before returning to the U.S. and starring in various Broadway productions, including Cabaret.

Then came her second marriage and motherhood. But that hasn't slowed down her professional projects. In June, Ringwald returns to the TV as Anne Juergens in the third season of ABC's The Secret Life of the American Teenager. She's also in the midst of finishing up a jazz album and plans to write a second book — she hasn't yet decided what it's going to be about. If anything, Pretty serves to remind us that Molly Ringwald's life didn't begin and end in a teen movie.

"In the end, I'd like to be remembered as a good person, as a good friend, as a good mother," says Ringwald. "There's the acting, the writing, the singing and all that, but that's not the most important thing for me."

Pretty Woman

- Getting the Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and finding the Perfect Lipstick is the new book from Molly Ringwald.

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Box office

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theatres, according to Hollywood.com:

1. **A Nightmare on Elm Street:** $32.2 million US
2. **How to Train Your Dragon** $10.8 million
3. **Date Night:** $7.6 million

Date Night star Steve Carrell

4. **The Back-up Plan** $7.2 million
5. **Furry Vengeance:** $6.5 million
6. **The Losers:** $6 million
7. **Clash of the Titans:** $5.98 million
8. **Kick-ass:** $4.5 million
9. **Death at a Funeral:** $4 million
10. **Oceans:** $2.6 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seinfeld curse lifted for Louis-Dreyfus

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

With the fifth season of The New Adventures of Old Christine wrapping up next week, it's safe to say Emmy-winner Julia Louis-Dreyfus has successfully dodged the Seinfeld curse.

The acclaimed comic actress, who receives a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame next week, sat down with Metro to talk about the series that's been keeping her happily busy for five years.

Q After five seasons, what do you think Christine has learned over the years?

A Oh, she's learned nothing. That's why things are getting worse.

Q Where do you plan to take the character at this point in the show's history?

A To more humiliating places for sure. That is really our goal.

Q Does it always have to be humiliating? Or will she be able to find happiness at some level?

A I think she finds a way to be happy, and sometimes isn't even aware of the fact that she's being humiliated, which is also fun to play, that kind of buffoonery. But sure, there are moments of happiness, and then there are moments of despair, and it's just a question of, from one episode to the next, getting the right cocktail of the two. But ultimately, you know, obviously our goal is to be funny. So it seems it's better to laugh at her.

Q Was it tough switching between playing Christine and playing a version of yourself on Curb Your Enthusiasm?

A Not really. On Curb Your Enthusiasm, it's strange because you're playing yourself but not really playing yourself, because I would never do anything like that. I don't accost people that way. Although I'd like to. I think I should accost people more frequently. On our show, it's just a different style of performing. I try to bring a kind of reality to it even if it's not something I would do. And there's certainly plenty of things playing Christine that I can relate to — being a sort of desperate, well-intentioned person. I can certainly tap into those feelings.

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 5/3/10	251	308	3 CBC	News	To Be Announced					CBC News: The National		(:05) The Hour
	254	-	8 OMNI	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Access H.	CSI: Miami "Meltdown" (N)		Big Bang	Big Bang	Castle "Food to Die For" (N)		CTV News
	-	-	10 JOY	Frasier (CC)	The Insider	Daily Weekend Edition (CC)		Poltergeist: The Legacy		P3	Diya	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "The Choice" (N) (PA)		24 (N) (PA) (CC)		NCIS: Los Angeles "Found"		News
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N) (CC)	Dancing With the Stars (Same-day Tape)			Robson Arms	Law & Order (CC)		A News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	The Office	The Office	How I Met	How I Met	Chuck Casey trains Morgan.		Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	EP Daily
	-	-	14 CW	The Office	The Office	One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	How I Met	Engagement	Big Bang	Big Bang	(:01) CSI: Miami "Meltdown"		KIRO 7 News
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Chuck Casey trains Morgan.		Law & Order (CC)		Law & Order "Crashers" (N)		KING 5 News
	602	568	19 W	Supernanny "Nitti Family"		How Clean	How Clean	Love It or List It		Love It or List It "Ethier" (N)		Love It-List It
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars (Same-day Tape)			Romantically	Castle "Food to Die For" (N)		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Stranger Than Fiction ★★★ (2006, Comedy) Will Ferrell, Maggie Gyllenhaal.					King	Cold Files
	291	383	27 PBS	Conver-KCTS	Antique Show	Antiques Roadshow (N) (CC)		American Experience "Roads to Memphis"		Face-Roberta		Come Walk
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "The Choice" (N) (PA)		24 (N) (PA) (CC)		Q13 FOX News at Ten (N)		Family Guy
	-	364	43 PBS	Experience	A Ripple of Hope (CC)		Appearances	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Antiques Roadshow (CC)	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	The Office	Name Is Earl	South Park	Half & Half	Paid Program	Street Court	Cold Files
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	One Tree Hill (N) (CC)		Gossip Girl (N) (CC)		KTLA 5 News at 10 (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Maury (CC)	
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten (N) (CC)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	According-Jim	Family Guy	South Park	Scrubs (CC)
	199	311	76 STR	CTV News	NTV Latenight News		Late Show W/Letterman		Late Late Show/Ferguson		Inside Edition	Seinfeld
news	502	390	23 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		Cracking Up (CC)		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) (CC)				Larry King Live (CC)		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Oakland Athletics. (Subject to Blackout)					Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Off the Record	Boxing Maidana vs. Cayo & Guzman vs. Funeka.				SportsCentre
	411	457	43 OLN	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Destination Truth (CC)		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters (CC)		Ghost Hunters
	410	403	54 SCR	(6:15) WWE Monday Night RAW (CC)			Score Now	WWE Monday Night RAW With Michael Cole and Jerry Lawler.				Cabby Unlimit
	417	406	55 SC	NASCAR	What's Deal?	Car Crazy	NASCAR Hub	Fast Track to Fame		Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR
	416	409	144 GLF	(6:00) Soccer		La Liga 360		Gol TV News	Hallo	Paid Program	Toronto FC Game In and Hour	
family	552	543	25 YTV	Survive This	Survive This	In Real Life (CC)		Survive This	That's-Weird	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
	555	545	50 TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Chicken
	557	541	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	553	546	53 TRE	Little Bear	Toopy	Max & Ruby	Dragon	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Big Comfy
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Recreat. Eden	Landscape	First Australians (CC)		Alex Colville		Death in the Forest (CC)		Court
	575	583	20 CMT	Planes, Trains and Automobiles ★★★ (1987) Steve Martin, John Candy.					Planes, Trains and Automobiles ★★★ (1987) Steve Martin.			
	570	580	24 MM	MuchOnDemand (CC)		UR11		Secret Life of American Teen		Secret Life of American Teen		MuchMeg
	600	564	29 H&G	House	House	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Home to Flip	Bang, Buck	For Rent	Marriage	House
	615	520	31 A&E	Fame and Recovery (N) (CC)		Paranormal	Paranormal	(:01) Intervention "Brittany"		(:01) Intervention "Tyler"		Fame
	628	584	32 SPKE	Jail (N) (CC)	Jail (CC)	Deadliest Warrior		Best of PRIDE Fighting		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Trek: Voyager
	521	560	34 TLC	Ultimate Chili Challenge (N)		Little People	Little People	Best Food Ever (CC)		Ultimate Chili Challenge		Little People
	616	522	39 SHO	Relic Hunter (CC)		Last Chapter (CC)		Last Chapter (CC)		Misfits (Season Finale) (N)		Survivors
	620	523	40 BVO	(5:00) U-Carmen ★★ (2005)		Law & Order "Burden" (CC)		Without a Trace (CC)		Dracula: Pages From a Virgin's Diary ★★★		
	601	562	41 SLC	The Millionaire Matchmaker		ET Canada	What	Real Housewives, Orange		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Runway
	520	505	42 DIS	Canada's Worst Handyman		Daily Planet (CC)		MythBusters (CC)		Canada's Worst Handyman		Dirty Jobs
	522	506	44 HIS	Dogfights "Flying Tigers"		Aftermath "World Without Oil"		Storm Planets "Deadly Dust"		Cities of the Underworld		Ancient-Bad
	627	528	45 SPC	(6:00) Path of Destruction (CC)		Stormworld	Stargate SG-1	"Death Knell"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager "The Gift"
	294	650	57 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Lopez Tonight		Name Is Earl	Name Is Earl	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Lopez Tonight
	619	525	48 TROP	Re-Vamped Their big reveal.		Wipeout (CC)		Wipeout (CC)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Prod. Parker
	603	561	62 FN	Pitchin' In	Glutton	Best Thing	At the Table	Diner, Drive-In	Unwrapped	Top Chef Masters (CC)		Pitchin' In
	-	-	69 AMC	Perfect	The Bone Collector ★★ (1999) Denzel Washington, Angelina Jolie. (CC)					The Silence of the Lambs ★★★★ (1991)		
	626	547	67 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Dunham: Spark of Insanity		Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	Unstable Fables: Tortoise		Penn & Teller	Gravity (N)	Nurse Jackie	U.S. of Tara	Wild Things	Fred Claus ★★ (2007) (CC)	
	581	566	101 MTV	My Life as Liz	After	MTV Live	Sex News	The Challenge: Fresh Meat II		My Life as Liz	After	MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Unscripted (N)	Naked	Doc "Pilot" (CC) (DVS)		The Manchurian Candidate ★★★ (1962) Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey.				
	-	-	105 MUL	My Queen	Immortal	Lying Low		Simply the	Pinoy Buzz	Wish Ko Lang!	News	Patrol World

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Proof that bike seats don't affect potency

Cycling legend Lance Armstrong has announced — via Twitter — that he'll be a father for the fifth time. It's the second child together for the seven-time Tour de France champ, 38, and girlfriend Anna Hansen, people.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Jessica wants to be America's First Lady

BUT SWEETY, HAIR EXTENSIONS SHOULD REALLY BE A PART OF HEALTH CARE Jessica Simpson is a singer, actress and reality star, but now she has a new goal. She wants to be Michelle Obama.

"I really do," Simpson told People magazine before the White House Correspondents' dinner in Washington, D.C., Saturday. "She's such an incredible woman, and she's with such a powerful man."

What does Simpson admire most about the First Lady? "Everything she does she exudes confidence," says the singer. "I'm really just here to celebrate her."

Simpson was just one among many celebrities who came out for the annual event and mingled at the packed pre-party.

"It's sort of like Oscar night," mused comedian Bill Maher, who joked: "It's great to mingle with America's real intellectual heavyweights. I saw the Jonas Brothers, Justin Bieber, Jessica Simpson, Ryan Seacrest — I can't wait to talk politics."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

J.Lo's ex talks new TV show

OH LOOK! IT'S A BOTTOM OF A BARREL One of Jennifer Lopez's ex-husbands is looking to reality TV to help settle his debt to the popstar, according to Page Six. Ojani Noa is looking for takers on a potential series called I Owe J.Lo in which he tries to "land menial jobs to pay off a half-million dollar court judgment that he owes to his ex-wife," a source says. In 2007, a judge ordered Noa to pay Lopez $495,000 US for attempting to publish a book about their relationship. METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

JIM CARREY is expressing himself, **STEPHEN FRY** ran into a pal at the airport, **LILY ALLEN** isn't as rich as previously reported, and **SARAH SILVERMAN** is looking to invest.

@JimCarrey I have no idea what I'm going to paint. My subconscious mind will have it's way

@stephenfry On my way home. Boarding soon. Just had sweet conversation with Ozzy Osbourne — that's LAX lounges for you I suppose. Such a dear thing.

@lilyroseallen I wish one could believe what one reads in the papers. Apparently I've got 5 million quid. Yay !

@SarahKSilverman I would love to hear about your Pyrimid and Ponzi opportunities! I've heard only good things!

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Drug charges dropped

AFTER SPENDING TIME IN REHAB. MAYBE SHE COULD DRAW A MAP FOR LINDSAY A drug charge against Mackenzie Phillips was dismissed Friday after the actress successfully completed a drug diversion program.

Phillips, 50, appeared in a Los Angeles courtroom for a final hearing in the case.

The television actress pleaded guilty in October 2008 to a felony drug possession charge and agreed to enter drug treatment.

She had been arrested two months earlier by airport screeners who said they found a small amount of narcotics.

"Mackenzie deserves great credit for seizing the opportunity she was given to get clean and prove she was worthy of the dismissal of her case," her attorney Blair Berk said in a statement.

In a video posted on the celebrity website TMZ.com, Phillips is seen telling the judge the case changed her life.

Phillips had a history of drug abuse and was fired from the TV series One Day at a Time in 1982.

She claimed in a memoir last year that she had a decade-long sexual relationship with their father, pop star John Phillips of the Mamas and the Papas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tied the knot again

THEY COULDN'T REMEMBER WHAT THEY VOWED THE FIRST TIME Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon renewed their wedding vows over the weekend at their Beverly Hills mansion, just as the plan to do every year they're married, according to the Daily Mail.

"I encourage everybody to do it. If you are happy and in love, celebrate it," Cannon says.

"Doesn't everybody do that? Don't Heidi Klum and Seal do the same thing every year? It's just something fun to celebrate. We renew our vows and exchange gifts."

The pair tied the knot two years ago.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Are the pretty people packing it in?

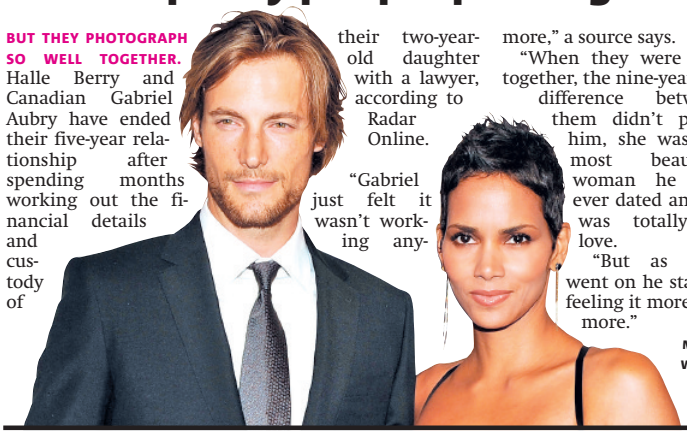
BUT THEY PHOTOGRAPH SO WELL TOGETHER. Halle Berry and Canadian Gabriel Aubry have ended their five-year relationship after spending months working out the financial details and custody of their two-year-old daughter with a lawyer, according to Radar Online.

"Gabriel just felt it wasn't working anymore," a source says.

"When they were first together, the nine-year age difference between them didn't phase him, she was the most beautiful woman he had ever dated and he was totally in love.

"But as time went on he started feeling it more and more."

METRO WORLD NEWS



A lost little girl could lose out to the law

WHAT DOES ROCK BOTTOM LOOK LIKE TO HER? Lindsay Lohan has reportedly violated the terms of her probation and could face jail time, according to TMZ.

The troubled actress is on probation for a DUI but has not had the alcohol education requirement laid out by the judge, which she needs to do at least once a week.

Lohan has reportedly been attending classes once every 21 days.

Her lawyer isn't worried, though, saying in a statement to the website, "We have received no negative written report from the program and contend Ms. Lohan is therefore in compliance."

METRO WORLD NEWS

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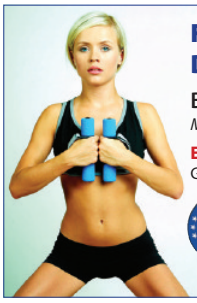
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Tuesday Partly cloudy 11° / 6°

Wednesday Sunny 13° / 8°

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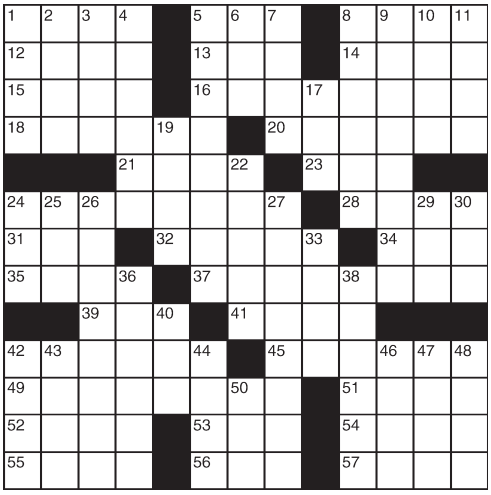
Take Five



ACROSS

1 Lily variety
5 "— Pinafore"
8 Congressional party chief
12 Tale teller
13 "— -hoo!"
14 Re planes and such
15 Desertlike
16 Lawyer, perhaps
18 Superficial layer
20 Melodic
21 Rat- —
23 Columnist Landers
24 Lets the air out
28 Fish's breather
31 Neighbor of Can. and Mex.
32 Native soldier of old India
34 Watery expanse
35 Grand story
37 Triumphed over
39 Sleuth, for short
41 And others (Lat.)
42 Guru's retreat
45 Low-quality stuff
49 Unquestionable
51 "— Almighty"
52 Ostriches' kin
53 Zero
54 Stare open-mouthed
55 Cleopatra's river
56 Part of AT&T
57 Otherwise

DOWN

1 Balkan dweller
2 Green land
3 Profit
4 Major trial
5 Added water
6 One of the Stooges
7 Couch
8 In decline
9 Pleasure seeker
10 Angers
11 Perspiration outlet
17 Historic time
19 Greek H's
22 Reservation residence
24 Payable
25 Kreskin's claim
26 Loyal
27 Merchant's non-aggressive ploy
29 CSA general
30 Young fellow
33 "Okay"
36 Red shade
38 Claim
40 Has the skills
42 Mideast gulf
43 Half (Pref.)
44 Mouthwash flavor
46 Elliptical
47 Uppercase
48 Elbow counterpart
50 Cravat

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4							2
		7	5					
2		1		6	4			8
					3		2	9
		5		1		8		
9	6		8					
3			6	8		4		1
					7	9		
5							3	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	P	A		S	P	A	R	
A	R	M		H	U	G	E	
C	O	M	P	O	S	E	D	
S	P	O	O	F	S		U	M
			P	A	Y		C	O
C	R	I	E	R		F	E	W
H	I	T	S		S	A	D	
I	C	E		F	I	X		T
C	O	M	P	E	L		C	A
			L	E	I		A	R
B	R	I	O		C	O	M	P
B	A	R	T		O	R	E	O
C	H	E	Z		N	E	O	N

M	O	A	T					
A	N	T	I					
D	E	E	P					
C	O	M	P	L	Y			
L	I	U						
B	E	E	R					
T	O	A	S	T				
A	R	E	T	E	S			
C	O	M	P	R	I	S	E	
			E	S	P			
			D	O	T			

2	8	7	9	5	4	3	6	1
9	1	6	7	2	3	8	5	4
4	3	5	6	8	1	7	2	9
1	7	9	8	4	6	5	3	2
8	4	3	5	9	2	6	1	7
6	5	2	3	1	7	4	9	8
7	9	4	2	6	5	1	8	3
5	2	1	4	3	8	9	7	6
3	6	8	1	7	9	2	4	5

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

UNREQUITED: THEN
HE DOESN'T WRITE, HE DOESN'T CALL...
AND NOW
HE DOESN'T WRITE, HE DOESN'T CALL, HE DOESN'T E-MAIL, HE DOESN'T TEXT, HE DOESN'T BLOG, HE DOESN'T TWEET...
5/3
P.ANNERMAN

Metro Recipe of the Day

Lemony Lentil Soup

INGREDIENTS:

1 tbsp olive oil
3 cloves garlic, chopped coarsely
1 medium onion, chopped
1 1/3 cup red lentils, rinsed and drained
4 cups chicken or vegetable broth
1 tsp ground coriander
1/2 tsp ground cumin
Juice of 1 lemon
4 wafer-thin slices of lemon

METHOD:

1. In large heavy pot over medium heat, cook garlic and onions in oil until brown, 3 to 5 minutes. Add lentils and cook, stirring, 2 minutes. Stir in broth. Simmer, covered, until lentils are almost soft, 15 to 20 minutes.
2. In dry skillet set over high heat, toast coriander and cumin until aromatic, 1 to 2 minutes, then add to soup. Add lemon juice, lemon slices, and salt and pepper to taste, and simmer soup for 5 minutes before serving.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your working routine and your wellbeing will take a turn for the better over the next few days and before you know it life will be fun again.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
By all means enjoy yourself, by all means go out with your friends, but don't let social activities take over your life.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A quarrel of some sort needs to be resolved. It may be the case that someone has taken advantage of you but just this once it might be best not to hit back.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Opportunities to get ahead in the world will come thick and fast over the next few days but don't take on too much or you could run out of steam.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
How far is too far? That is the question you most need to ponder today, and you will certainly be tempted to go over the top.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
It may frustrating that you are unable to push ahead with a plan or project that means so much to you but there is no need to fret.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Only you know what it is you really want out of life so, logically, only you can take the decisions which will make it happen.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Don't waste time trying to explain to other people what you are trying to do, just get on and do it and let the chips fall where they will.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Change is inevitable and there is no point wishing that things would stay just as they are – it's not going to happen and you know it.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
There is nothing you cannot do if you really put your mind to it. Do you believe that? You should do because it's true.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You won't get other people on your side if you constantly criticize what they are doing. Chill out.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You can sense that this is a special time and that you should be doing special things. What happens today will point you in the right direction.

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